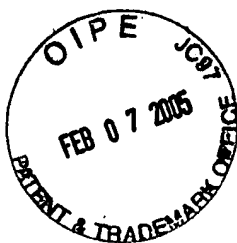


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Applicants : Constantine Tsikos and C. Harry Knowles
Application Serial No.: 10/068,803
Filing Date : February 6, 2002
Title : BIOPTICAL PRODUCT AND PRODUCE IDENTIFICATION
SYSTEMS EMPLOYING PLANAR LASER ILLUMINATION
AND IMAGING (PLIIM) BASED SUBSYSTEMS
Examiner : Thien Le
Group Art Unit : 2876
Attorney Docket No. : 108-127USAND0

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT
MAILED FEBRUARY 2, 2005

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated February 2, 2005, and the Office Action mailed in the present Application on August 12, 2004, Applicants submit the following amendments to the same:

AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 263-272 as follows:

Claims 1-262 (canceled)

Claim 263 (currently amended): A bioptical system which comprises:

a housing having a bottom portion and a side portion;
bottom and side light transmission apertures formed in said bottom and side portions,
respectively;

a first imaging window mounted over said first light transmission aperture, and a second
~~light transmission aperture~~ imaging window mounted over said second light transmission
aperture;

a bottom ~~PLIIM-based~~ planar laser illumination and imaging (PLIIM) based subsystem
mounted within said bottom portion of the housing, and producing and projecting a first planar